

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (currently amended): An image processing apparatus comprising:

read means for reading an image on a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

authentication means for authenticating ~~whether a user can utilize an original image of the document;~~

search means for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document, on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated by said authentication means;

setting means for automatically setting, in accordance with an authentication by said authentication means, a destination for the original image of the document to an address of the user authenticated by said authentication means, the set destination being different from said image processing apparatus, wherein the destination is automatically set independently of a manual designation upon the authentication of the user; and

output means for outputting the original image of the document searched by said search means to the destination set by said setting means.

2. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storage information includes information represented by a barcode.

3. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storage device includes a server device connected via a network.

4. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output means attaches the original image to E-mail, and outputs the E-mail with the original image to the destination set by said setting means.

5. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for causing a printing device to print the image storage information, and causing the image storage device to store the original image of the document.

6. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output means outputs the original image without the image storage information.

7. (currently amended): A processing method for an image processing apparatus which reads a document and outputs the document to a printing device or external device, comprising:

a read step for reading an image on a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

an authentication step for authenticating ~~whether a user can utilize an original image of the document;~~

a search step for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated in the authentication step;

a setting step for automatically setting, in accordance with an authentication in said authentication step, a destination for the original image of the document to an address of the user authenticated in said authentication step, the set destination being different from said image processing apparatus, wherein the destination is automatically set independently of a manual designation upon the authentication of the user; and

an output step for outputting the original image of the document searched in the search step to the destination set in said setting step.

8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): A computer-readable recording medium which records a program which causes a computer to function as each means of an image processing apparatus comprising:

read means for reading an image on a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

authentication means for authenticating ~~whether a user can utilize an original image of the document;~~

search means for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document, on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated by said authentication means;

setting means for automatically setting, in accordance with an authentication by said authentication means, a destination for the original image of the document to an address of the user authenticated by said authentication means, the set destination being different from said image processing apparatus, wherein the destination is automatically set independently of a manual designation upon the authentication of the user; and

output means for outputting the original image of the document searched by said search means to the destination set by said setting means.

10. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

operating means for accepting an address designated as the destination from a user; and

second setting means for setting, as the destination, an address manually designated by said operating means in a case where the user is not authenticated,

wherein the output means output the original image of the document searched by said search means to the destination of the address set by said setting means, or output the image read by said read means to the destination of the address set by said second setting means.

11. (previously presented): The method of claim 7, further comprising:
an operating step for accepting an address designated as the destination from
a user; and
a second setting step for setting, as the destination, an address manually
designated in the operating step in a case where the user is not authenticated,
wherein the output step includes outputting the original image of the
document searched in the search step to the destination of the address set in said setting
step, or outputting the image read in the read step to the destination of the address set in
said second setting step.

12. (previously presented): The computer-readable recording medium
according to claim 9, where the program causes the computer to function as each means of
the image processing apparatus that further comprises:

operating means for accepting an address designated as the destination from
a user; and

second setting means for setting, as the destination, an address manually
designated by said operating means in a case where the user is not authenticated,

wherein the output means output the original image of the document
searched by said search means to the destination of the address set by said setting means, or
output the image read by said read means to the destination of the address set by said
second setting means.